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09/474,216	12/29/1999	OLEG B. RASHKOVSKIY	ITL.0319US (P8002)	2005

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HOUSTON, TX 77057-2631

EXAMINER
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KOENIG, ANDREW Y

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2623

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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08/22/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/474,216

Applicant(s)

RASHKOVSKIY, OLEG B.

Examiner

Andrew Y. Koenig

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 June 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 89-111 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 89-99 and 101-108 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 100 and 109-111 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 89-111 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 100 and 109-111 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 89-95, 97-99, 101-104, and 106-108 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Menard et al (WO 96/27840) in view of Lawler et al (5,699,107), LaJoie et al. (6,049,333), De Saint Marc (EP 0912053) and Daniels (2002/0032907).

Regarding claim 89, Menard describes simultaneous receiving, monitoring and storing multiple video streams and alerting a user when a predetermined option (page

11 lines 29-33, monitoring streams and alerting when interest is detected, page 13 lines 14-19, storing detected video stream, page 17 lines 29-31, monitoring and watching multiple video channels simultaneously), which equates to tuning to another, different video transmission. Menard is silent on receiving a selection of one video program from an electronic program guide displayed on a display, and in response to the selection displaying a GUI other than the EPG, including options from which another program is to be selected at overlapping times.

In analogous art, Lawler teaches an EPG with the common characteristic of a time period (fig. 3), the programs transmitted on different channels at overlapping time (fig. 3), icons indicating an association with one or more of the programs of the plurality of programs (col. 8, ll. 32-40), and selection of one video program from an electronic program guide displayed on a display. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard by a user interface listing a plurality of programs that have a common characteristic, the plurality of programs to be transmitted on different channels at an overlapping time, said user interface to indicated an association between the more than one user selected options and one or more of the programs listed in the plurality of programs, and selecting of one video program from an electronic program guide displayed on a display, as taught by Lawler in order to provide the user a convenient means to traverse program information, while also permitting customization of the user experience by enabling recording and reminding of programs within a common interface (e.g. EPG).

Menard and Lawler fail to teach upon selection, displaying a GUI other than the EPG, including options from which another program is to be selected at overlapping times. LaJoie teaches displaying a GUI other than the EPG, including options from which another program is to be selected at overlapping times (see fig. 3, col. 7, ll. 59-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard and Lawler by displaying a GUI other than the EPG, including options from which another program is to be selected at overlapping times upon selection of a program as taught by LaJoie in order to provide a convenient user interface to enable and set-up events for viewing more than one event.

Menard teaches in response to detecting an occurrence of an event in the one transmission, providing an alert which enables to the user to switch to displaying the one transmission from a predetermined time before the event (page 9 lines 1-7, page 11 lines 5-13, page 13 lines 20-22, page 15 lines 17-27, page 16 lines 13-24, delay system for recording a predetermined time before the event, sending the delayed feed to the live display), but Menard is silent on storing the another video transmission and in response to another event, displaying at least a portion of the another video transmission that was stored during said switch. In analogous art, Daniels teaches storing another video transmission, when the user watches a different transmission, in that Daniels teaches the viewer can pause the display of a first program, and switch to another channel to view a different program. The paused program is recorded ... so that the viewer can resume viewing the program at any time, without missing any of it (Daniels: pg. 4, para. 0036, see also fig. 6, pg. 11, para. 120-123). Further, Daniels

teaches switching back to the previous video channel in response to a user-initiated event, which equates to the claimed in response to another event, displaying at least a portion of the another video transmission that was stored during said switch. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard by storing the another video transmission and in response to another event, displaying at least a portion of the another video transmission that was stored during said switch as taught by Daniels in order to access programming on other channels without missing any portion of the programming of either program. The combination of Menard and Daniels teaches storing events and switching back wherein the user request to see the another event, which equates to the claimed in response to another event, displaying at least a portion of the another video transmission that was stored during said switch, thereby enabling the user to watch programs in their entirety.

Although Menard shows the ability to alert a user with a video window when a identified streams has been matched (page 10 lines 10-16, opening up video window when keyword found, page 13 lines 20-23), both Menard and Daniels fail to specifically state that the alerted stream is automatically switched from the display of the another video transmission to display the one video transmission. De Saint Marc clearly shows completely and automatically switching from one video transmission to another when a predetermined event that is being monitored is received (col. 3 section 0016, automatically change channels to a channel where a goal has occurred). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard and Daniels with the complete, automatic channel switching of

De Saint Marc so that the system would quickly change channels and the user would not miss an important event.

The combination of Menard, Daniels, and De Saint Marc teaches switching channels (col. 3, section 0016, col. 9, section 0056), and switching from a full screen display of the another to display, in full screen, the one video transmission, in that Daniels teaches watching one show and switching to another show, which is shown in full-screen operation in figure 30.

Regarding claim 90, Menard teaches monitoring and storing channels (page 11 lines 29-33, monitoring streams and alerting when interest is detected, page 13 lines 14-19, storing detected video stream, page 17 lines 29-31) in that the system is constantly monitoring and storing segments for events in the one video transmission, which equates to "again monitoring and storing one video transmission in response to the another event."

Regarding claim 91, Menard teaches displaying one or more user interfaces to enable a user to indicate an option associated with the event in the one video transmission, and storing said option on said receiver, in that Menard shows storing a plurality of options, each associated with different events (page 9 lines 11-33, page 10 lines 1-5, page 12 lines 4-8) and shows storing a plurality of monitored video transmissions (page 17 lines 15-29) and monitoring the transmission for a user-selected options (page 9 lines 11-33, page 10 lines 1-5, page 12 lines 4-8). Menard is merely silent on performing actions in response to receiving a program selection from an electronic program guide. In analogous art, Daniels teaches performing actions in

response to receiving a program selection from an electronic program guide, in that in figures 36 and 37, Daniels teaches selecting a program and displaying additional information and performing a record function (pg. 17, para. 0165-0166). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard by performing actions in response to receiving a program selection from an electronic program guide as taught by Daniels in order to provide additional functionality to the user within the existing interfaces, thereby seamlessly integrating features with a common interface for the user.

Regarding claim 92, Menard shows storing a plurality of options, each associated with different events (page 9 lines 11-33, page 10 lines 1-5, page 12 lines 4-8).

Regarding Claim 93, Menard shows storing a plurality of monitored video transmissions (page 17 lines 15-29) and monitoring the transmission for a user-selected options (page 9 lines 11-33, page 10 lines 1-5, page 12 lines 4-8).

Regarding claim 94, Menard teaches displaying the transmission from a predetermined time before the occurrence of the event (page 9 lines 1-7, page 11 lines 5-13, page 13 lines 20-22, page 15 lines 17-27, page 16 lines 13-24), which equates to a time of about 45 seconds prior to the occurrence of the event.

Regarding claim 95, Menard teaches displaying the transmission from a predetermined time before the occurrence of the event (page 9 lines 1-7, page 11 lines 5-13, page 13 lines 20-22, page 15 lines 17-27, page 16 lines 13-24), which equates to automatically queuing the stored transmission in response to detecting the event.



Regarding claim 97, Menard shows a set-top box (fig. 1 "tuner"), which equates to tuning said receiver to receive a television broadcast.

Regarding claim 98, Menard teaches storing video transmission in the mass storage device (fig. 1, 8, labels 20, 32).

Regarding claims 99 and 107, Menard shows an article comprising a medium storing instructions, enabling a processor based system to execute (page 5 lines 27-32, page 6 lines 1-10, figs. 1 and 2). Furthermore, Menard shows the ability to simultaneously receive two video transmissions on the receiver (page 17 lines 29-31, monitoring and watching multiple video channels simultaneously). Menard describes simultaneous receiving, monitoring and storing multiple video streams and alerting a user when a predetermined option (page 11 lines 29-33, monitoring streams and alerting when interest is detected, page 13 lines 14-19, storing detected video stream, page 17 lines 29-31, monitoring and watching multiple video channels simultaneously), which equates to tuning to another, different video transmission.

Menard is silent on receiving a selection of one video program from an electronic program guide displayed on a display, and in response to the selection displaying a GUI other than the EPG, including options from which another program is to be selected at overlapping times.

In analogous art, Lawler teaches an EPG with the common characteristic of a time period (fig. 3), the programs transmitted on different channels at overlapping time (fig. 3), icons indicating an association with one or more of the programs of the plurality

of programs (col. 8, ll. 32-40), and selection of one video program from an electronic program guide displayed on a display. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard by a user interface listing a plurality of programs that have a common characteristic, the plurality of programs to be transmitted on different channels at an overlapping time, said user interface to indicated an association between the more than one user selected options and one or more of the programs listed in the plurality of programs, and selecting of one video program from an electronic program guide displayed on a display, as taught by Lawler in order to provide the user a convenient means to traverse program information, while also permitting customization of the user experience by enabling recording and reminding of programs within a common interface (e.g. EPG).

Menard and Lawler fail to teach upon selection, displaying a GUI other than the EPG, including options from which another program is to be selected at overlapping times. LaJoie teaches displaying a GUI other than the EPG, including options from which another program is to be selected at overlapping times (see fig. 3, col. 7, ll. 59-62), which reads on indicators for programming to be monitored. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard and Lawler by displaying a GUI other than the EPG, including options from which another program is to be selected at overlapping times upon selection of a program as taught by LaJoie in order to provide a convenient user interface to enable and set-up events for viewing more than one event.

Menard teaches in response to detecting an occurrence of an event in the one transmission, providing an alert which enables to the user to switch to displaying the one transmission from a predetermined time before the event (page 9 lines 1-7, page 11 lines 5-13, page 13 lines 20-22, page 15 lines 17-27, page 16 lines 13-24, delay system for recording a predetermined time before the event, sending the delayed feed to the live display), but Menard is silent on storing the another video transmission and in response to another event, displaying at least a portion of the another video transmission that was stored during said switch, and stopping the display of the other video transmission to store the other video transmission from the stop of the display

In analogous art, Daniels teaches storing another video transmission, when the user watches a different transmission, in that Daniels teaches the viewer can pause the display of a first program, and switch to another channel to view a different program. The paused program is recorded ... so that the viewer can resume viewing the program at any time, without missing any of it (Daniels: pg. 4, para. 0036, see also fig. 6, pg. 11, para. 120-123). Further, Daniels teaches switching back to the previous video channel in response to a user-initiated event, which equates to the claimed in response to another event, displaying at least a portion of the another video transmission that was stored during said switch, which reads on the claimed stopping the display of the other video transmission to store the other video transmission from the stop of the display. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard by storing the another video transmission and in response to another event, displaying at least a portion of the another video

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transmission that was stored during said switch, and stopping the display of the other video transmission to store the other video transmission from the stop of the display as taught by Daniels in order to access programming on other channels without missing any portion of the programming of either program. The combination of Menard and Daniels teaches storing events and switching back wherein the user request to see the another event, which equates to the claimed in response to another event, displaying at least a portion of the another video transmission that was stored during said switch, thereby enabling the user to watch programs in their entirety.

Although Menard shows the ability to alert a user with a video window when a identified streams has been matched (page 10 lines 10-16, opening up video window when keyword found, page 13 lines 20-23), both Menard and Daniels fail to specifically state that the alerted stream is automatically switched from the display of the another video transmission to display the one video transmission. De Saint Marc clearly shows completely and automatically switching from one video transmission to another when a predetermined event that is being monitored is received (col. 3 section 0016, automatically change channels to a channel where a goal has occurred). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard and Daniels with the complete, automatic channel switching of De Saint Marc so that the system would quickly change channels and the user would not miss an important event.

Regarding Claim 101, Menard shows storing a plurality of monitored video transmissions (page 17 lines 15-29) and monitoring the transmission for user-selected options (page 9 lines 11-33, page 10 lines 1-5, page 12 lines 4-8).

Regarding claim 102, Menard teaches displaying the transmission from a predetermined time before the occurrence of the event (page 9 lines 1-7, page 11 lines 5-13, page 13 lines 20-22, page 15 lines 17-27, page 16 lines 13-24), which equates to a time of about 45 seconds prior to the occurrence of the event.

Regarding claim 103, Menard teaches displaying the transmission from a predetermined time before the occurrence of the event (page 9 lines 1-7, page 11 lines 5-13, page 13 lines 20-22, page 15 lines 17-27, page 16 lines 13-24), which equates to automatically queuing the stored transmission in response to detecting the event.

Regarding claim 104, Menard shows the ability to automatically show the detected event when detected (page 13 lines 20-22, page 16 lines 13-24, page 17 lines 22-29, automatically displaying the alerted stream).

Regarding claim 106, Menard shows a delay unit, that is user configurable, to record time before the event (page 9 lines 1-7, page 11 lines 5-13, page 15 lines 18-28).

Regarding claim 108, Menard shows a television system coupled to the receiver (fig. 1 item 4), and LaJoie teaches the receiver as a set top box.

5. Claims 96 and 105 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Menard et al (WO 96/27840), Lawler et al (5,699,107), LaJoie et al. (6,049,333),

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De Saint Marc (EP 0912053) and Daniels (2002/0032907) in view of Akiba et al (6,542,695).

Regarding claim 96, Menard, Daniels, and De Saint Marc teach monitoring and storing, but are silent on monitoring and storing while displaying. Akiba shows the ability to store multiple video transmissions at the same time while viewing them (figs. 5-9, col. 4 lines 10-52, col. 5 lines 1-2). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard, Daniels, and De Saint Marc monitoring and storing while displaying as taught by Akiba in order to enable the viewer to see each event while also storing the events when the user is watching, thereby enabling the user to access events at a different time.

Regarding claim 105, Menard, Daniels, and De Saint Marc teach monitoring and storing, but are silent on monitoring and storing while displaying. Akiba shows the ability to store multiple video transmissions at the same time while viewing them (figs. 5-9, col. 4 lines 10-52, col. 5 lines 1-2). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Menard, Daniels, and De Saint Marc monitoring and storing while displaying as taught by Akiba in order to enable the viewer to see each event while also storing the events when the user is watching, thereby enabling the user to access events at a different time.

### ***Conclusion***

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Y. Koenig whose telephone number is (571) 272-7296. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Fr (8:30 - 5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (571)272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Andrew Y Koenig  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2623

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